

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/687,108 Confirmation No: 7219
Filing Date: October 16, 2003
Applicants: Ryan A. Kaiser et al.
Group Art Unit: 3731
Examiner: Julie Szpira
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CORING AND
REAMING OF BONE
Attorney Docket: 5490-000345

Mail Stop: Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowance dated December 22, 2011, Applicants make the following observations.

Applicants respectfully acknowledge the Examiner allowing this application. With respect to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, however, Applicants respectfully submit that the elements that the Examiner asserts forms the basis for allowing this application too narrowly define the invention. In fact, Applicants respectfully submit that the elements relied upon by the Examiner, and other elements

found in the claims, could be characterized more broadly, and in different combinations and sub-combination and still present patentable subject matter. Further, Applicants' invention differs from the prior art of record by features other than the limitations cited by the Examiner.

If the Examiner would like to discuss this matter further, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 22, 2012

By:

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